

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims by amending claims 1 and 24 as indicated below, all without prejudice, as indicated on the following listing of all the claims in the present application after this Amendment:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for image sensing comprising the acts of:
producing, from a photo detector, a plurality of detected electronic signals responsive to an optical image;
amplifying, with a column buffer amplifier, signals selected from the detected electronic signals to produce a plurality of amplified signals;
sampling, with a correlated double sampler, signals selected from the amplified signals to produce a plurality of sampled signals; and
clamping, by a clamp circuit, at least one signal selected from the sampled signals during a reset phase of the correlated double sampler in response to a detecting of at least one over-saturation condition[[:]] ,whereby image inversion is at least partially abated.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein
the photo detector comprises a photo diode.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein
the photo detector comprises a photo gate.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein
the clamp circuit is implemented in a technology selected from a list consisting of N-well CMOS process technology and of P-well CMOS process technology.

Claim 5-23: Cancelled.

24. (Currently Amended) In an image sensor that correlates a [[first]] reset sample of a first signal during a first interval after reset of a pixel in a photo detector and a second sample of the first signal during a later interval in the same sampling cycle as the first interval to produce a luminance signal for said pixel, a method comprising:

detecting that the first signal is slewing excessively rapidly during the first interval; and
in response to said detecting, limiting the value of the [[first]] reset sample;

whereby the image sensor produces an output of improved accuracy by abating an error in the luminance signal for said pixel due to said excessively rapid slewing.

25. (Original) The method of claim 24 wherein:
the error is an image inversion due to over-saturation.

26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24 wherein:
the detecting is responsive to the first signal reaching the bounds of a predetermined threshold.

27. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the clamp circuit limits a reset voltage.

28. (New) A method of image sensing, comprising:
determining a reset sample of a first signal during a first interval after reset of a pixel in a photo detector;
determining a second sample of the first signal during a later interval in the same sampling cycle as the first interval;
correlating the reset sample and the second sample to produce a luminance signal for said pixel;
detecting that the first signal is slewing excessively rapidly during the first interval; and
in response to said detecting, limiting the value of the reset sample.